



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
"Parks Make Life Better!"

John Wicker, Director

Norma E. Garcia, Chief Deputy Director

November 01, 2016

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

29 November 1, 2016

LORI GLASGOW
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**ADOPT A RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO
THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT
FOR THE 2016-2017 COMPETITIVE EXCESS FUNDS TREE PLANTING GRANT PROGRAM TO
FUND THE URBAN FOREST WHITTIER NARROWS REGIONAL RECREATION AREA AND
SANTA FE DAM RECREATIONAL AREA PROJECT
AND ADOPT A YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PLAN
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommendations will allow the Department of Parks and Recreation to submit a grant application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for the 2016-2017 Competitive Excess Funds Tree Planting Grant Program, available to the First Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, in the amount of \$200,000 to fund the Urban Forest Whittier Narrows Regional Recreation Area and Santa Fe Dam Recreational Area Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find the proposed Urban Forest Whittier Narrows Regional Recreation Area and Santa Fe Dam Recreational Area Project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the record of the Project.
2. Adopt a resolution to submit a grant application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for the 2016-2017 Competitive Excess Funds Tree Planting Grant Program, available to the First Supervisorial District, in the amount of \$200,000 to fund the Urban Forest Whittier Narrows Regional Recreation Area and Santa Fe Dam Recreational Area Project.

3. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, or his designee, as agent of the County, to accept grant funds, execute the agreements, conduct all negotiations, and submit all documents, including, but not limited to, amendments, deed restrictions, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the Urban Forest Whittier Narrows Regional Recreation Area and Santa Fe Dam Recreational Area Project.

4. Adopt a Youth Employment Plan for the proposed Urban Forest Whittier Narrows Regional Recreation Area and Santa Fe Dam Recreational Area Project as required by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District procedural guide.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommendations will allow the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) to submit a grant application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD) for the 2016-2017 Competitive Excess Funds Tree Planting Grant Program, available to the First Supervisorial District, to fund the Urban Forest Whittier Narrows Regional Recreation Area and Santa Fe Dam Recreational Area Project (Project).

The proposed Project is located at Whittier Narrows Regional Recreation Area (Whittier Narrows), 750 South Santa Anita Avenue in South El Monte, California, and Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area (Santa Fe Dam), 15501 East Arrow Highway, Irwindale, California. The proposed scope of work consists of purchasing, planting, and maintaining a total of 500 trees at Whittier Narrows and Santa Fe Dam. The trees will primarily replace those that have been decimated with fungus by the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer (Ambrosia Beetle). Additionally, the tree planting Project will mitigate heat island effects; reduce carbon dioxide and greenhouse gasses emission from air pollution; and improve the air quality for residents, visitors, and commuters in the surrounding area. Furthermore, the Project will enhance a critical urban forest canopy that is home to numerous bird and plant species and are part of popular recreation areas visited by millions of patrons annually.

Approval of the attached Youth Employment Plan (YEP) is required to comply with the requirements of RPOSD's Youth Employment Policy for projects funded by Proposition A. Youth will be employed for site preparation and assist with planting trees.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goal of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) by improving and enhancing recreational opportunities for residents and visitors to Los Angeles County.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The Department is submitting a grant application for the 2016-2017 Competitive Tree Planting Grant Program available to the First Supervisorial District. The total grant request is \$200,000. There is \$2,000,000 available in the grant program. The minimum grant request is \$100,000 and the maximum is \$200,000.

OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT

The recommended actions will allow the Department to propose a tree replacement program for

grant funding. Additional operating costs may materialize, but is dependent on the final provisions of the grant. The Department will re-evaluate the program and identify any additional operating costs upon acceptance of grant funds.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 2016-2017 Competitive Excess Funds Tree Planting Grant Program provides \$2,000,000 of competitive tree planting grant to reduce heat islands by planting trees.

In June 2009, the Board, acting as the governing body of RPOSD, adopted a Youth Employment Policy for projects funded by Proposition A. RPOSD required that the governing body of the grantee adopt a YEP for each grant funded project at a duly noticed public meeting. Approval of the enclosed YEP will comply with RPOSD's Policy.

County Counsel has approved this Board Letter and resolution as to form.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Project, which consists of purchasing, planting, and maintaining a total of 500 trees at Whittier Narrows and Santa Fe Dam to primarily replace the trees affected by the Ambrosia Beetle, are within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that they meet the criteria set forth in Sections 15301(h) and 15304 (b) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1(j) and 4(c) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the Project provides for maintenance of existing landscaping and installation of new landscaping.

The proposed Project will not involve the removal of healthy, mature and scenic trees. Additionally, the proposed Project is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed Project's records

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

These actions will have no impact on any other projects or services at Whittier Narrows and Santa Fe Dam.

CONCLUSION

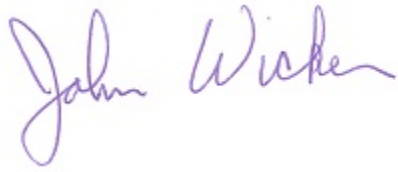
Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one adopted copy of this letter to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects Division, and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

11/1/2016

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "John Wicker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JOHN WICKER

Director

JW:FP:FC:lr

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
APPROVING THE APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2016-2017 COMPETITIVE EXCESS FUNDS
TREE PLANTING GRANT PROGRAM AND APPROVES THE ADOPTION OF A YOUTH
EMPLOYMENT PLAN**

WHEREAS, the people of the County of Los Angeles on November 5, 1996 enacted Los Angeles County Proposition A, Safe Neighborhood Parks, Gang Prevention, Tree-Planting, Senior and Youth Recreation, Beach and Wildlife Protection (Propositions), which among other uses, provides funds to public agencies and nonprofit organizations in the County for the purpose of acquiring and/or development facilities and open space for public recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Proposition also created the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (District) to administer said funds; and

WHEREAS, the District has set forth the necessary procedures governing application for grant funds under the Proposition, and

WHEREAS, the District's procedures require the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) to certify, by resolution, the approval of an application before submission of said application to the District; and

WHEREAS, said application contains assurances that the Department must comply with; and

WHEREAS, the Department certifies, through this resolution, that the application is approved for submission to the District; and

WHEREAS, the Department will enter into an Agreement with the District to provide funds for development of the Urban Forest Whittier Narrows Regional Recreation Area and Santa Fe Dam Recreational Area Project

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEREBY:

1. Approves the submission of a grant application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District to fund the above project; and
2. Certifies that Department understands the assurances and certification in the application forms; and
3. Certifies that the Department has, or will have, sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project in perpetuity; and

4. Certifies that the Department will sign and return, within 30 days, both copies of the project agreements sent by the District for authorizing signature; and
5. Approves the adoption of a Youth Employment Plan for the project; and
6. Appoints the Director of Parks and Recreation, or designee, as agent of the County of Los Angeles to conduct all negotiations, and to execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, memoranda of unrecorded grant agreements, deed restrictions, amendments, payment requests and so forth, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned projects.

The foregoing resolution was passed on this 1st day of November, 2016, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex-officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies, and authorities for which said Board so acts.



LORI GLASGOW, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
of the County of Los Angeles

By Carla Little
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MARY C. WICKHAM
County Counsel

By Christina A. Salseda
Christina A. Salseda
Principal Deputy County Counsel

ATTACHMENT I

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

URBAN FOREST WHITTIER NARROWS REGIONAL RECREATION AREA AND SANTA FE DAM RECREATIONAL AREA PROJECT

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PLAN

Background (Scope of Work)

The proposed project is located at Whittier Narrows Regional Recreation Area (Whittier Narrows), 750 South Santa Anita Avenue in South El Monte, California, and at Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area (Santa Fe Dam), 15501 East Arrow Highway, Irwindale, California. The proposed scope of work consists of purchasing, planting and maintaining approximately 500 trees at Whittier Narrows and Santa Fe Dam.

Tasks That Youth May Perform

The Department will hire youth from the Conservation Corps for site preparation and assist with planting trees.

Estimated Cost of Youth Employment

The estimated budget for youth employment for this project is approximately \$20,000.

Youth Employment Goal

Under the provisions of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District's policy on employment of youth, the Youth Employment Minimum Obligation for the County of Los Angeles of \$15,739,750 has been met. However, the Department actively pursues employment opportunities for at-risk youth on all projects where feasible.